

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) An electronic mail transmission/reception system for communicating data between an electronic mail creating/sending device and an electronic mail receiving/reproducing device via a network, wherein:

said electronic mail creating/sending device comprises:

an electronic mail creating means creating multimedia data including attached data representing an image, voice/sound, or the like; and

an ID generating means generating an ID corresponding to the attached data such that said electronic mail creating/sending device sends the generated ID instead of the attached data, and

said electronic mail receiving/reproducing device comprises:

a real data generating means generating real data representing an image, voice/sound or the like corresponding to the ID such that said electronic mail receiving/reproducing device reproduces the image, voice/sound or the like represented by the real data.

2. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 1, wherein the ID generating means generates an ID based on a category of attached data.

3. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 1, wherein a server connected to the network comprises an ID generating means generating an ID corresponding to attached data such that the server

sends the ID instead of the attached data to said electronic mail receiving/reproducing device.

4. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 1, wherein the real data is identical to the attached data.

5. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 1, wherein the real data is data belonging to the same category as the attached data and representing a content approximate to a content of the attached data.

6. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 3, wherein the e-mail creating/sending device further comprises an ID acquiring means which, when its own ID generating means fails to generate an ID corresponding to attached data, inquires of the server about an ID corresponding to the attached data to acquire the ID corresponding to the attached data from the server such that the e-mail creating/sending device sends the ID acquired from the server instead of the attached data.

7. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 3, wherein the e-mail creating/sending device has a data/ID acquiring means which, when there is a request for attached data other than attached data corresponding to an ID which can be generated by the ID generating means of the e-mail creating/sending device, acquires such attached data and the ID corresponding to the attached data from the server.

8. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 3, wherein the e-mail receiving/reproducing device has a real data acquiring means which, when the real data generating means of the e-mail receiving/reproducing device fails to generate real data corresponding to an ID, inquires of the server about real data corresponding to the ID to acquire the real data corresponding to the ID from the server such that the e-mail receiving/reproducing device reproduces the real data acquired from the server.

9. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 3, wherein the server sends the attached data, the ID, or another ID belonging to the same category as the ID to the e-mail receiving/reproducing device depending on ability of the e-mail receiving/reproducing device or at a request thereof.

10. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 1, wherein the ID is part of HTML e-mail, and the ID can be identified by tags enclosing the ID at its front and back.

11. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 10, wherein the ID is expressed as URL in the HTML e-mail.

12. (Currently Amended) An electronic mail transmission/reception system for communicating data between an electronic mail creating/sending

device and an electronic mail receiving/reproducing device via a network,
wherein:

said electronic mail creating/sending device comprises:

an electronic mail creating means creating multimedia data including attached data representing an image, voice/sound, or the like such that said electronic mail creating/sending device sends the multimedia data, and

a server connected to the network comprises an ID generating means generating an ID corresponding to attached data by referencing an ID table that represents correspondence between data and IDs such that the server sends the ID instead of the attached data to said electronic mail receiving/reproducing device.

13. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 12, wherein the server connected to the network comprises a real data generating means generating real data representing an image, voice/sound or the like corresponding to the ID such that the server sends the real data instead of the ID to said electronic mail receiving/reproducing device.

14. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 12, wherein the real data is identical to the attached data.

15. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 13, wherein the real data is data belonging to the same category as the attached data and representing a content approximate to a content of the attached data.

16. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 13, wherein the e-mail creating/sending device further comprises an ID acquiring means which, when its own ID generating means fails to generate an ID corresponding to attached data, inquires of the server about an ID corresponding to the attached data to acquire the ID corresponding to the attached data from the server such that the e-mail creating/sending device sends the ID acquired from the server instead of the attached data.

17. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 13, wherein the e-mail creating/sending device has a data/ID acquiring means which, when there is a request for attached data other than attached data corresponding to an ID which can be generated by the ID generating means of the e-mail creating/sending device, acquires such attached data and the ID corresponding to the attached data from the server.

18. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 12, wherein the e-mail receiving/reproducing device has a real data acquiring means which, when the real data generating means of the e-mail receiving/reproducing device fails to generate real data corresponding to an ID, inquires of the server about real data corresponding to the ID to acquire the real data corresponding to the ID from the server such that the e-mail receiving/reproducing device reproduces the real data acquired from the server.

19. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 12, wherein the server sends the attached data, the ID, or another ID belonging to the same category as the ID to the e-mail receiving/reproducing device depending on ability of the e-mail receiving/reproducing device or at a request thereof.

20. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 12, wherein the ID is part of HTML e-mail, and the ID can be identified by tags enclosing the ID at its front and back.

21. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 20, wherein the ID is expressed as URL in the HTML e-mail.

22. (Original) An electronic mail transmission/reception system for communicating data between an electronic mail creating/sending device and an electronic mail receiving/reproducing device via a network, wherein:

said electronic mail creating/sending device comprises:

an electronic mail creating means creating multimedia data including attached data representing an image, voice/sound, or the like; and

an ID generating means generating an ID corresponding to the attached data such that said electronic mail creating/sending device sends the generated ID instead of the attached data, and

a server connected to the network comprises:

a real data generating means generating real data representing an image, voice/sound or the like corresponding to the ID such that the server sends the real data instead of the ID to said electronic mail receiving/reproducing device, and

said electronic mail receiving/reproducing device reproduces the image, voice/sound or the like represented by the real data.

23. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 22, wherein the real data is identical to the attached data.

24. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 22, wherein the real data is data belonging to the same category as the attached data and representing a content approximate to a content of the attached data.

25. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 22, wherein the e-mail creating/sending device further comprises an ID acquiring means which, when its own ID generating means fails to generate an ID corresponding to attached data, inquires of the server about an ID corresponding to the attached data to acquire the ID corresponding to the attached data from the server such that the e-mail creating/sending device sends the ID acquired from the server instead of the attached data.

26. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 22, wherein the e-mail creating/sending device has a data/ID acquiring means

which, when there is a request for attached data other than attached data corresponding to an ID which can be generated by the ID generating means of the e-mail creating/sending device, acquires such attached data and the ID corresponding to the attached data from the server.

27. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 22, wherein the e-mail receiving/reproducing device has a real data acquiring means which, when the real data generating means of the e-mail receiving/reproducing device fails to generate real data corresponding to an ID, inquires of the server about real data corresponding to the ID to acquire the real data corresponding to the ID from the server such that the e-mail receiving/reproducing device reproduces the real data acquired from the server.

28. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 22, wherein the server sends the attached data, the ID, or another ID belonging to the same category as the ID to the e-mail receiving/reproducing device depending on ability of the e-mail receiving/reproducing device or at a request thereof.

29. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 22, wherein the ID is part of HTML e-mail, and the ID can be identified by tags enclosing the ID at its front and back.

30. (Original) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 29, wherein the ID is expressed as URL in the HTML e-mail.

31. (Currently Amended) An electronic mail creating/sending device for sending mail data via a network, comprising :

an electronic mail creating means creating multimedia data including attached data representing an image, voice/sound, or the like; and

an ID generating means generating an ID corresponding to the attached data by referencing an ID table that represents correspondence between data and IDs such that the electronic mail creating/sending device sends the generated ID instead of the attached data.

32. (Original) The electronic mail creating/sending device of claim 31, wherein the ID generating means generates an ID based on a category of attached data.

33. (Original) The electronic mail creating/sending device of claim 31, further comprising an ID acquiring means which, when said ID generating means fails to generate an ID corresponding to attached data, inquires of a server connected to the network about an ID corresponding to the attached data to acquire the ID corresponding to the attached data from the server such that the e-mail creating/sending device sends the ID acquired from the server instead of the attached data.

34. (Original) The electronic mail creating/sending device of claim 31, further comprising a data/ID acquiring means which, when there is a request for attached data other than attached data corresponding to an ID which can be generated by the ID generating means, acquires such attached data and the ID corresponding to the attached data from a server connected to the network.

35. (Original) The electronic mail creating/sending device of claim 31, further comprising an ID registering means storing IDs and attached data corresponding to the IDs in categorized manner, and for a new attached data, identifying a category of the data, allocating an ID to the data and registering the data and the ID.

36. (Currently Amended) An electronic mail receiving/reproducing device for receiving via a network and reproducing multimedia data including an ID corresponding to attached data representing an image, voice/sound, or the like, comprising:

a real data generating means generating real data representing an image, voice/sound or the like corresponding to the ID included in the multimedia data by referencing an ID table that represents correspondence between data and IDs such that said electronic mail receiving/reproducing device reproduces the image, voice/sound or the like represented by the real data.

37. (Original) The electronic mail receiving/reproducing device of claim 36, wherein the real data is identical to the attached data.

38. (Original) The electronic mail receiving/reproducing device of claim 36, wherein the real data is data belonging to the same category as the attached data and representing a content approximate to a content of the attached data.

39. (Original) The electronic mail receiving/reproducing device of claim 36, further comprising a real data acquiring means which, when the real data generating means fails to generate real data corresponding to an ID, inquires of a server connected to the network about real data corresponding to the ID to acquire the real data corresponding to the ID from the server such that the e-mail receiving/reproducing device reproduces the real data acquired from the server.

40. (Original) The electronic mail receiving/reproducing device of claim 36, further comprising a real data search means which, based on IDs and corresponding real data stored in categorized manner, searches for data belonging to a higher order category of a received ID or representative data if there is no real data corresponding to the received ID.

41. (Currently Amended) An electronic mail transmission/reception device for sending and receiving mail data via a network, comprising:

an electronic mail creating/sending device including:

an electronic mail creating means creating multimedia data including attached data representing an image, voice/sound, or the like; and

an ID generating means generating an ID corresponding to the attached data by referencing an ID table that represents correspondence between data and IDs such that the electronic mail creating/sending device sends the generated ID instead of the attached data, and

an electronic mail receiving/reproducing device receiving and reproducing multimedia data including an ID corresponding to attached data representing an image, voice/sound, or the like, comprising:

a real data generating means generating real data representing an image, voice/sound or the like corresponding to an ID included in the multimedia data such that the electronic mail receiving/reproducing device reproduces the image, voice/sound or the like represented by the real data.

42. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail transmission/reception device of claim 41, comprising:

a recognizing means which, upon receiving multimedia data including an ID and attached data corresponding to the ID in a prescribed format, recognizes the ID and the attached data while associating them with each other,

said ID generating means being able to generate the ID associated with the attached data recognized by the recognizing means.

43. (Currently Amended) An Internet access device comprising:

a real data generating means for generating real data representing image, voice/sound or the like corresponding to an ID representing attached data representing image, voice/sound or the like included in multimedia data by referencing an ID table that represents correspondence between data and IDs;

a real data acquiring means for acquiring real data corresponding to the ID from a specific server or a server designated by a URL when the real data generating means cannot generate the real data corresponding to the ID; and

a reproducing means for reproducing the real data.

44. (Original) A recording medium containing a program for making computers function as the electronic mail creating means, the ID generating means and the real data generating means of the electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 1.

45. (Original) A recording medium containing a program for making computers function as at least the electronic mail creating means and the ID generating means of the electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 12.

46. (Original) A recording medium containing a program for making computers function as at least the electronic mail creating means, the ID

generating means, the real data generating means of the electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 22.

47. (Original) A recording medium containing a program for making a computer function as at least the electronic mail creating means and the ID generating means of the electronic mail creating/sending device of claim 31.

48. (Original) A recording medium containing a program for making a computer function as the real data generating means of the electronic mail receiving/reproducing device of claim 36.

49. (Original) A recording medium containing a program for making a computer function as at least the electronic mail creating means, the ID generating means, and the real data generating means of the electronic mail transmission/reception device of claim 41.

50. (Original) A recording medium containing a program for making a computer function as at least the real data generating means, the real data acquiring means and the reproducing means of the Internet access device of claim 43.

51. (New) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 1, wherein the ID generating means generates the ID corresponding to the attached data by referencing an ID table that represents correspondence between data and IDs.

52. (New) The electronic mail transmission/reception system of claim 1, wherein the electronic mail creating/sending device sends the ID generated by the ID generating means to a server connected to the network, and the electronic mail receiving/reproducing device receives the ID from the server.